Homes in Residential colonies in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Delhi Administration have reported that the proposal is being examined in consultation with the Delhi Development Authority.

Blood Banks

2731. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a significant number of Blood Banks are run by profit making institutions; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to set up HIV testing Centres in Metro Cities, Capitals of States and major populated towns to ensure Blood Safety in details?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To facilitate testing for HIV the Government have established 180 Zonal Blood Testing Centres in all major cities and have also covered all the blood banks both in public and private sector by providing linkages with these Centres.

Sense of AIDS crisis hard to sustain

2732. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:
SHRI RAMJI LAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the 'Times of India, dated 29th December, 1992, captioned, "Sense of AIDS crisis hard to sustain";

(b) whether Government have alerted people living in rural areas about AIDS;

(c) the number of AIDS cases that have come to the notice of Government in 1992-93 and upto 31st January 1993 all over the country; and

(d) the effective steps being contemplated for prevention of AIDS cases in the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Generation of awareness about AIDS has been taken up on a country wide basis.

(c) As on 31st January, 1993 there were 11,406 HIV positive cases including 307 full-blown AIDS Cases out of 15,97,207 persons screened.

(d) During the 8th plan period, with the assistance from World Bank and World Health Organisation, Government have taken up a comprehensive programme all over the country to prevent the spread of HIV infection.

Financial Aid to Escorts Hospital in Delhi

2733. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides aid to the Escorts Hospital in Delhi in any form; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the land for the site on which it is erected was also given alloted as charitable endowment to the Hospital;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what concession/facility is offered to the poor patients by the Hospital?